

DEATH OF A RECLUSE

Mystery of Mrs. Clara Parnell, of Mecklenburg County.

HER ASSOCIATES EATS AND DOGS.

Living Alone on a Large Farm and Visiting Other Plantations.

None Knew Where She Came From or Whether She Went—Wealthy and Miserable—Her Adopted Infant With Her When Found Dead.

(Special Telegram to the Dispatch.)

CHAS. CITY, Va., March 21.—Intelligence has just been received here of the death of a most remarkable and erratic character who lived a short distance from this town. Her name was Mrs. Clara Parnell. Where she came from and her previous history no one knows. About nine or ten years ago she arrived in this vicinity and purchased a farm of 500 acres.

With her cats and dogs. There she spent most of her time, secluded from the world with no companions or associates except her cats and dogs. Occasionally she visited or passed through this place on business. She owned about 40 cattle, 10 sheep, 25 goats, 3 horses, 25 cats, 50 dogs, and 300 chickens. Provisions were purchased for them and men employed to feed them. None of her animals were ever worked, and when she travelled hired her conveyance.

Neither visitors nor associates. She had no visitors, desired none, and no associates. No one entered her house. She did her own cooking and milking. No woman was employed on her premises. Her dogs and cats occupied the house with her. Her favorite dogs had been to her. They were all black dogs. Her neighbors were frequently annoyed by her dogs killing their sheep.

PAINTED HER DOGS. On one occasion to prevent them being killed by an officer she painted her dogs to resemble the soldiers of the army. She provided with money, she resisted to the last officers in their collection of debts she had contracted for her taxes. She was a white man and one colored man were purchased food and cared for her animals during her absence. They were employed and paid by the month.

WAS SHE A CAT AND DOGS. She believed in the transmigration of souls and said she had lost her husband and two sons, whose souls existed in the dogs, cats, and cattle around her, and hence her duty to preserve, protect, and tenderly treat them.

AN ADOPTED INFANT. She left here four months ago with an infant she said was her adopted child. She went to Atlantic City and rented a private cottage in December last. On last Saturday she was found dead in her room and the baby alongside her body crying. The body was in a state of decomposition. The county physician had a post-mortem and ascertained that she died of fatty degeneration of the heart.

BAKE JEWELS. More than \$4,000 worth of rare jewelry and diamonds were found in the filthy room in which she died, and the discovery of papers showing large landed interests in Virginia and North Carolina, in which the body was found was creeping with filth. Her favorite dogs—seven in number—occupied the same quarters, and evidently ate at the same table with her. These dogs were carried from her plantation near here to Atlantic City.

WHEN FOUND DEAD. She was sitting in a chair when death overtook her, and was evidently about to retire. She was partly disrobed and fell forward in a crouching position on the floor.

OTHER DISCOVERIES. In the room were found in a wallet four \$1,000 notes currency. The jewelry was in an unlocked bureau-drawer. Also, a book from the Northern Pacific railroad and a bank-book showing that she had kept an account of several thousand dollars. There was still a balance of over \$300 due her.

HIS LEGAL HEIR. Her will was also discovered in the filthy old bureau. It was drawn by a Philadelphia lawyer and probably witnessed by her legal heirs. The will was dated the day of her death. It was found in the discovery of Mrs. Parnell's body, it is said to have been adopted by her while in Philadelphia. It was a will made with the intention of making him her legal heir.

WHO WAS SHE? From the best information obtainable it appears that Clara Parnell, whose maiden name was not to be ascertained, was the only daughter of a wealthy farmer who lived on a large plantation near here. She was employed by her father and with whom she transacted business. She was a white woman and had the veritable Yankee accent and pronunciation.

AN ALLEGED ROMANCE. Knowing one day when she was young she was a beautiful, petted, vivacious beauty with dazzling eyes, a generous and extraordinary independence of character. She had an ample income in her right and her father was a wealthy man. Her father was a wealthy man and she was a beautiful woman. She was a beautiful woman and she was a beautiful woman.

MISTERY. Her farm is on the border of Lunenburg and Mecklenburg counties, embracing five hundred acres on the Meherrin river. She was a lady to her husband, especially as it is in the case of her father, who was a wealthy man. She was a beautiful woman and she was a beautiful woman.

OLD POINT COMFORT. Dr. N. N. Page's Readings—Civil and Military Festivities—A Promised Musical Treat—Disgraceful Guests.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

OLD POINT COMFORT, Va., March 21.—The annual readings of the Civil and Military Festivities, a promised musical treat, and a disgraceful guests.

Dr. N. N. Page's Readings—Civil and Military Festivities—A Promised Musical Treat—Disgraceful Guests.

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LOUD BUSINESS CUT.

EFFECT OF SUPPRESSING THE OBSCENE THEATRICAL BILLS.

A Disappointed Audience—The Ballard Will Case—The Grippe in Norfolk County, &c.

(Special Telegram to the Dispatch.)

NORFOLK, Va., March 21.—Owing to the activity of the authorities in suppressing the obscene theatrical show-bills posted throughout the city, the variety exhibit at the Opera-House last night did not come up to the expectations of the great throng of men and boys that packed the house.

In view of the circumstances the house and possibly the policemen present the management deemed it prudent to cut out all the extremely loud business.

It was sufficiently loud, however, for all practical purposes, even under the pruning. The all-around men came quick yesterday afternoon in covering up the obscene posters under the eaves of the Opera-House. Hereafter the police department will pass upon the bills in art as represented on theatrical paper.

A DIVIDED JURY. The trial of the Ballard will case in the Circuit Court of Norfolk county resulted in a hung jury, the vote being seven to five in favor of the will.

There is more sickness prevailing in Norfolk county just now than has been known for years. It is chiefly of the grippe order. Much of it also prevails in Norfolk and Portsmouth.

A FULL COMPLIMENT. First-Lieutenant H. C. Fisher, United States marine corps, reported at the navy-yard to-day for duty at the barracks.

There is a full complement of marine officers now on duty at the yard—something unusual.

A COMMITTEE CONFAB. Judge Waddill, of Richmond, was here on Thursday night in a cabinet order of the Congressmen. He was at the residence of the late Senator James M. Smith, which was his headquarters during the session.

The conference was in relation to the business of the committee.

William Kestel, a workman at the navy-yard, was terribly injured about the head yesterday afternoon by a pile of lumber falling on him.

CARRIE SIMON. The young white girl found wandering along the streets destitute and ill and cared for at the police station, was sent to her friends in Richmond to-day.

DEATH OF S. S. GRESHAM. S. S. Gresham died at his residence, Charlotte street, this morning after a lingering illness of six months.

Mr. Gresham was born in King and Queen counties, and settled in Norfolk twenty-two years ago, since which time he has been one of the most prominent of its business men, always taking a deep interest in everything.

He was a staunch Baptist, having been converted under the preaching of the venerable Rev. Andrew Broadbent, of the upper King and Queen counties, in 1829, and made a deacon of the same church two years later at the early age of twenty-three. Since coming to Norfolk he has been one of the most zealous and esteemed members of the Freeman-Street Baptist church.

He leaves a family of five daughters and one son. His funeral will be conducted in the Freeman-Street church to-morrow afternoon.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE. The steamer Georgia, which was damaged some time ago near Cary Island, came from Baltimore this morning, the necessary repairs having been made.

The steamer Corsica, of the New Bay Line, arrived in port at noon under command of C. Kirby. The steamer is in attractive one and is handsomely fitted up.

NAVAL NOTES. (By Telegram to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 21.—Lieutenant-Commander A. R. Connelley is detached from the Atlantic and ordered to duty in the Bureau of Ordnance. Passed-Assistant-Engineer W. M. Moore, detached from duty in the Bureau of Steam Engineering on the 31st instant and ordered to duty on board the Vesuvius on the 31st of April.

Passed-Assistant-Engineer J. P. Mickley, detached from the Vesuvius and ordered to the Fern, the flagship of Lieutenant-Commander Connelley, has been extended one year from 31st of April next.

A Disastrous Crevasse. (By Telegram to the Dispatch.)

VICTORVILLE, Miss., March 21.—The levee on Watt Benjamin's plantation, twelve miles below Lake Providence, broke last night, and the water rushed down the Point Lookout. Levee-men consider this a great disaster. At 9:30 this morning the crevasse was about four feet wide and four feet deep. The levee is known as the old Bass levee. The water from the break will run directly into the Tensas river, which will carry it off.

Martyrizing the New Orleans Assassins. (By Telegram to the Dispatch.)

NEW ORLEANS, March 21.—Memorial services were held this forenoon in the little chapel in front of the cathedral for the late President Lincoln. The services were held in the chapel of the cathedral, which was crowded with people who were lynched in New Orleans. A high mass of requiem was celebrated and an oration delivered by Rev. Father McLaughlin, who was the only priest who had been martyred in the cathedral. The oration was a beautiful one, and the people who were lynched in New Orleans were remembered.

A Birmingham Railway "Reverberated." (By Telegram to the Dispatch.)

ST. LOUIS, March 21.—A Birmingham railway special train, which was en route from Birmingham to St. Louis, was "reverberated" by a collision with a freight train near the city of Birmingham. The collision occurred at the intersection of the Birmingham and St. Louis lines, and resulted in the destruction of the Birmingham special train.

A Knock-Down That Proved Fatal. (By Telegram to the Dispatch.)

SAVANNAH, Ga., March 21.—Robert Wilk was knocked down last night by a horse-drawn carriage in Savannah. The carriage was driven by a man who was drunk, and the horse was also drunk. Wilk was injured and died of his wounds this morning.

Guilty of Killing His Wife. (By Telegram to the Dispatch.)

SAY MARCOS, Texas, March 21.—The trial of George L. Marcos, charged with the killing of his wife, was concluded last night and the jury returned a verdict of guilty. Marcos was shot by his wife in the street of Say Marcos, Texas, and was killed.

A Quake of the Earth in Montana. (By Telegram to the Dispatch.)

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 21.—Reports from Montana points indicate that there was a distinct earthquake at 1:10 o'clock yesterday afternoon at Butte, Anaconda, and Billings. The shock was the strongest since the great earthquake of 1872, and was felt by many people in the neighborhood.

Yellow Boys for Europe. (By Telegram to the Dispatch.)

NEW YORK, March 21.—Gold coin at the sub-treasury this morning for export to Europe, making the total for today's shipments \$1,775,000.

Dropped Dead from Heart Disease. (Special Telegram to the Dispatch.)

CHARLESTON, W. Va., March 21.—Sheriff Daniels McCoy, of Putnam county, died here to-day of heart disease. He was a well-known man in the community, and his death was a great loss.



MILLINERY AND FANCY GOODS.

MONDAY, MARCH 23D,

we shall have here for your inspection a superb variety of HATS AND BONNETS, the production of our own work-room, as well as a large number of

French Patterns

from the leading milliners of Paris. In every instance the latter bear representative names and are worthy exponents of the style of the French capital. Those who are fortunate enough to get a view of them will see the extreme novel ideas of only the best artists of the French capital.

The various departments of our extensive establishment are replete with their assortment of FASHIONABLE SPRING MILLINERY.

In our UNTRIMMED HAT DEPARTMENT we show such extensive lines of colors and variety of shapes and styles as to render a description of a few an injustice to the many.

The SILK, RIBBON, AND VELVET DEPARTMENT presents an unusually attractive variety. Lines of VELVETS in their new light shades; CREPE DE CHINE, plain and dotted Gold, silver, and colored metallic weaves in ribbons. Polka-dotted effects in both pieces goods and ribbons.

NARROW AND WIDE VELVET RIBBONS, in black and all colors. GLACE AND TULLE RIBBONS. SHIRRED GAUZE AND STRIPED GOLD COMBINATION RIBBONS. The LACE STOCK, in black, white, and such tints as are desirable are displayed in the latest designs. BRUSSELS NETS, in all colors and black. METAL SPECKLED NETS, in all colors and black.

The large space devoted to FLOWERS in this house is now filled with the richest imported novelties, as well as medium and cheap styles of domestic manufacture. The variety comprises WREATHS AND SPRAYS suitable for present style of trimming, in lilacs, jonquils, orchids, poppies, bellies, pansies, and other natural flowers, not forgetting the chrysanthemums, all enter into the composition of handsome trimmings.

We must not close without reference to our CHILD AND CLOAK DEPARTMENT for infants and children. Our reputation for exclusive styles and novelties is well sustained this season. We show the largest variety ever brought to Richmond and kindly solicit an inspection of same.

KAUFMANN & CO., 401 EAST BROAD STREET.

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.

(Authorized Capital, \$20,000,000.)

No. 1115 E. MAIN STREET, RICHMOND, VA.

Lends Money on Real Estate on Accommodating Terms, and Permits Small Monthly Payments on Loans.

THE BEST AGENCY KNOWN FOR THE

Profitable Investment of Small Savings.

Considering the safety of the investment, there is nothing which pays so well as Building Fund Stock. Correspondence solicited.

Shares, \$100 Each, payable in instalments of 60 cents per share per month, or paid up in full for Investors, \$50 net, per share.

DIRECTORS—J. TAYLOR ELLISON, President; NORMAN V. RANDOLPH, JOHN S. ELLETT, JOHN B. PURCELL, F. T. SUTTON.

CARLTON MCCARTHY, Secretary and Treasurer, Box 408.

FOR RENT. 909 Park Avenue, 12 rooms; per annum \$700.

1023 West Main street, 10 rooms; per annum \$600.

1101 West Main street, 10 rooms; per annum \$600.

1107 West Main street, 10 rooms; per annum \$600.

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Dissolutions & Copartnerships.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE

this day dissolved the partnership

under the firm-name of WINTER & GUYENATOR

for the sale of Furniture, Stoves, Carpets, Iron

Store, 400 East Broad street, Richmond, Va.

J. B. WINTER, J. R. GUYENATOR.

Richmond, Va., March 17, 1891.

THE RICHMOND AND PETERSBURG RAILROAD COMPANY, OFFICE OF PRESIDENT.

BUREAU OF RAILROADS, OFFICE OF THE

REWARD OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS

for the evidence necessary to convict and convict

any person or persons who on Saturday the 14th

instant tampered with the switch near Maury,

near the crossing of the Virginia and North

Carroll roads, near the crossing of the

Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, near the

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